

Message Text

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72

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 L-02 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 /025 W

----- 040369

R 161700Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4760

INFO AMEMBASSO BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY QUITO

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIMA 3127

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: EARI, PE

SUBJECT: CIVAIR - LATEST STATEMENTS BY AEROPERU

PRESIDENT SOTO

1. AEROPERU PRESIDENT SOTO ARRIVED LIMA FROM CARACAS REGIONAL AIRLINES MEETING APRIL 11 AND HELD IMPROMPTU PRESS CONFERENCE. SOTO SAID THAT REPRESENTATIVES OF AVIANCA, VIASA AND ECUATORIANA "VOLUNTARILY" OFFERED "TOTAL AND DECIDED" SUPPORT TO AEROPERU " IN CASE IT BECOMES NECESSARY" (I.E., IF ACTION TAKEN BY USG TO RESTRICT AEROPERU'S FLIGHTS TO U.S.). "SUPPORT" REPORTEDLY INCLUDES AGREEMENT TO TAKE "ENERGETIC MEASURES" AGAINST ENTITIES WHO TAKE ACTION AGAINST AEROPERU'S "RIGHT" TO FLY TO U.S. AND OPENING OF NEW ROUTES TO REPLACE LOST ROUTES TO U.S. PURPOSE OF MEETING BETWEEN FOUR AIRLINES, HE AID, WAS TO FORM BASIS FOR "MUTUAL PLAN OF (SUB -REGIONAL) COOPERATION BY MEANS OF AN INTER-AIRLINE AGREEMENT". HE ADDED THAT FOUR AIRLINES WILL MEET IN LIMA MAY 15 TO SIGN AGREEMENT. HE ALSO MENTIONED THAT HE WOULD BE GOING TO CHILE APRIL 16 FOR TALKS WITH LAN CHILE.

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2. SOTO INDICATED THAT AEROPERU WILL LEASE ANOTHER

DC-8, LARGER THAN THE TWO IT ALREADY HAS, TO BE USED
ON THE RIO-CARACAS-MEXICO RUN BEGINNING IN OCTOBER.
HE ALSO MENTIONED THAT "LARGE CARGO JET" WILL SOON BE
ADDED TO AEROPERU'S FLEET.

3. COMMENT: BRANIFF OFFICIALS HERE TELL US THAT SOTO
DID NOT ACHIEVE HSI OBJECTIVE OF OBTAINING POLITICAL
SUPPORT FROM FELLOW GOVERNMENTS IN REGARD TO AEROPERU/
BRANIFF DISPUTE. RATHER THEY MAINTAIN THAT OTHER LATIN
AIRLINE REPRESENTATIVES MERELY OFFERED TO ALLOW AEROPERU
TO FLY ADDITIONAL ROUTES TO THEIR COUNTRIES SHOULD
BRANIFF REDUCE ITS SERVICES. WE TEND TO PUT CREDENCE
IN BRANIFF OFFICIALS' OBSERVATIONS, SINCE AT LEAST
FROM OUR VANTAGE POINT WE WOULD SERIOUSLY DOUBT THAT
OTHER LATIN FLAG CARRIERS, MOST OF WHICH OPERATE
PROFITABLE SERVICES TO U.S. WOULD WISH TO CARRY
PERU'S BALL IN THIS PARTICULAR CONTEST. WE WOULD
APPRECIATE ADDRESSEE POSTS' COMMENTS AS APPROPRIATE.
DEAN

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